

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USINT BAGHDAD

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FOLLOWING REPEAT TRIPOLI 1442 ACTION SECSTATE INFO ABU DHABI
ABLGERS CAIRO CARACAS DAMSASCUS JAKARTA LAGOS TEHRAN TUNIS
JIDDA KUWAIT VIENNA 23 DEC 1975

QUOTE

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DEPT PLEASE PASS USINT BAGHDAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR XF

SUBJECT: LIBYA FAILS TO CONDEMN OPEC OUTRAGE

1. THE AUSTRIAN DC-9 WITH THE TERRORISTS AND THEIR
HOSTAGES ABOARD WHICH ARRIVED IN TRIPOLI AT ABOUT
1800 GMT LAST NIGHT RETURNED TO ALGIERS AFTER ABOUT
FIVE HOURS ON THE GROUND.

2. FOLLOWING IS ACCOUNT APPEARING IN PRESS TODAY OF
LAST NIGHT'S EVENTS. BEGIN TEXT: NEGOTIATIONS ARE NOW
UNDERWAY AT TRIPOLI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT WITH THE FEDAYEEN
WHO CARRIED OUT THE OPERATION AT THE OPEC HEADQUARTERS
IN VIENNA. THEIR DC-9 AIRCRAFT HAD LANDED AT TRIPOLI
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AIRPORT AT ABOUT 20:00 IN THE EVENING YESTERDAY

CARRYING THE FEDAYEEN AND THE HOSTAGES, WHO ARE IN EXCELLENT CONDITION. THE FEDAYEEN ASKED IN THE NEGOTIATIONS AT TRIPOLI AIRPORT THAT SAUDI ARABIA OR IRAQ PROVIDE THEM WITH A 707 AIRCRAFT AND THAT IT COME IMMEDIATELY TO TRIPOLI TO TRANSPORT THEM. THE CORRESPONDENT OF THE LIBYAN NEWS AGENCY HAS LEARNED THAT BOTH OF THE GOVERNMENTS IN QUESTION WERE CONTACTED AND INFORMED OF THE DEMANDS OF THE FEDAYEEN.

AS A RESULT OF THE NEGOTIATIONS WHICH TOOK PLACE WITH THE FEDAYEEN, THE ALGERIAN OIL MINISTER AND THE LIBYAN OIL MINISTER WERE RELEASED TOGETHER WITH A MEMBER OF THE LIBYAN DELEGATION AND SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THE FOLLOWING DELEGATIONS: (1) TWO FROM SAUDI ARABIA; (2) ONE FROM IRAN; (3) ONE FROM THE UAE; (4) ONE FROM QATAR.

THE LAR ASKED IN ITS NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE FEDAYEEN THAT THE LIVES OF THE REMAINING HOSTAGES BEING HELD IN THE PLANE BE SAFEGUARDED. THE FEDAYEEN STRESSED THAT THEY DID NOT INTEND TO TAKE THE LIFE OF ANY INDIVIDUAL AND THAT THEIR GOALS WERE COMPLETELY POLITICAL. THE LIBYAN NEWS AGENCY HAS LEARNED THAT THE HEALTH OF ALL THE HOSTAGES IS VERY GOOD. THE FEDAYEEN HAVE NOT REVEALED ANY SPECIFIC DEMANDS DURING THE NEGOTIATIONS WHICH ARE TAKING PLACE WITH THEM EXCEPT THAT THEY HAVE STRESSED THAT THEIR GOAL IS COMPLETELY POLITICAL--AS HAS BEEN MADE CLEAR BY THEIR REQUEST THAT THEIR POLITICAL COMMUNIQUE BE BROADCAST AND PUBLISHED. THE LAR AGREED TO THIS. THE CORRESPONDENT OF THE LIBYAN NEWS AGENCY HAS ALSO LEARNED THAT THE FEDAYEEN INTEND TO GO TO BAGHDAD. END TEXT.

3. ALONG WITH TEXT OF COMMUNIQUE, PUBLISHED WITHOUT COMMENT, THE PRESS TODAY CARRIES A PHOTO AND BIOGRAPHY OF THE LIBYAN OFFICIAL KILLED DURING THE VIENNA ATTACK, YOUSSEF IZMIRLI. HIS DEATH IS SAID TO HAVE "RESULTED FROM THE TAKING OF HOSTAGES." THERE IS NO CRITICISM OF THE TERRORISTS. AS WE UNDERSTAND IT, IZMARLI WAS BOTH AN OFFICIAL OF THE OPEC SECRETARIATE (SINCE 1971) LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AND A SENIOR OFFICIAL OF THE PETROLEUM MINISTRY. HE HAD PARTICIPATED IN ALL THE OPEC NEGOTIATIONS OVER THE PAST FEW YEARS, AND WILL BE HARD TO REPLACE

4. IZMIRLI WAS MARRIED TO AN AMERICAN CITIZEN, AND HAD TWO SMALL CHILDREN. WE UNDERSTAND THAT THEY WERE WITH HIM IN VIENNA ON THEIR WAY BACK TO THE U.S. FOR THE HOLIDAY, AND THAT MRS. IZMARLI IS TO ACCOMPANY THE

BODY BACK TO TRIPOLI LATER TODAY. THE EMERGENCY
ADDRESS WE HAVE FOR MRS. MELVINA IZMIRLI IN THE U.S. IS THAT OF
HER MOTHER, MRS. VIRGINIA SHORE, 5301 S. PENNSYLVANIA
AVENUE, CUDAHY, WISCONSIN. ON HER RETURN TO TRIPOLI,
CHARGE WILL OFFER CONDOLENCES AND ANY HELP WE CAN
PROVIDE.
CARLE

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